

UNITED STATES



To
Sergeant Service Club
Sergeant College
Providence
Rhode Island

From
Sgt. Harry Stadelci
Det., Finance Dept.
Post Office Building
A. P. O. Box
New York, N. Y.

19 December 1943

Wells, Bang:

Here's another Sergeant Alumnus expressing his gratitude for your thoughtfulness and kindness in regards to "Yr side grade." This is the third Christmas that I've spent in the service, far away from home and from Sergeant College. However, on each year at Christmas time, I have received some little gifts from you, showing that you think you "ally" with me. Incidentally, I think you would be interested to know just where I had been when I received my gifts. Well, in 1941, it was Florida; in 1942, it was North Africa; and in 1943, it was Italy. It would be impossible for me to express my appreciation in writing for your gifts and letters, as it just can't be done in words. I just hope you know what I mean when I say "Thanks a lot, dude."

I've received your letters, dated May 11th and November 14th, with their priceless bits of news about the Sergeant Alumnus. You see, you are the only source of information that we have in regards to them, and by that, you can readily judge how anxiously we look forward to your letters.

When I wrote my last letter to you, I was stationed in North Africa. At that time it was useless and impossible to state where I had visited and what I had seen. Well, things are still about the same in regards to deserting populations, but I am permitted to mention a few of the cities that I had paid a visit; namely, Ouen, Algiers, Sidi-Bel-Abbes, Constantine, Salween, Doua, and Kasser. It would surprise any of you to see how modern some parts of Algiers are, in spite of the countless Arabs who come up the population. However, I assure you, that after visiting the "Gothic" native quarters in Algiers, I was badly disappointed. Nowhere could I find a semblance of the colorful native quarter shown in the movie "Algiers". nor could I find a romantic pair such as Holly Hunter and Charles Boyer. In Sidi-Bel-Abbes, I visited the headquarters of the French Foreign Legion in North Africa, along with its most interesting museum. Salween, in Tunisia, is the Western's hottest city in North Africa. They believe even visits here would see to Doua and means their salvation. Also in Tunisia, I saw the remains of a French Colonial built by them during the reign of the French Empire.....well, I hope you pardon me for the way I ran this letter into a geographic tour.

Well, time doesn't come this V-mail longer, so I must regretfully close. Please give my kindest regards to the Faculty and the students. Here's hoping that it won't be long before we in the service will be able to return to peace to our homes, and we all will happily meet again.....

Sgt. Harry Stadelci

V-MAIL